



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, March 8, 2010

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Man Found Guilty of Attempting to Rape Woman at Gun Point

Washington, D.C. - Jonathan Newman, 23, formerly of the 2300 block of Hartford Street, SE, was found guilty today by a D.C. Superior Court jury of Assault with Intent to Commit First Degree Sexual Abuse While Armed, Armed Robbery, two counts of Third Degree Sexual Abuse While Armed, Possession of a Firearm During a Crime of Violence, Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon and Carrying a Pistol Without a License, announced United States Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr.

According to the government's evidence at trial, the victim had never met nor seen the defendant before he attacked her on June 28, 2009, at approximately 11:40 p.m. Newman snuck up behind the victim, who was standing outside of her apartment building in the 1500 block of Marion Street, NW, talking on her cellular telephone. Newman put a dark colored revolver to the victim's right temple, snapped her cellular telephone shut and pushed her inside of her apartment building where he tried to rape her. As Newman tried to rape the victim, he shot himself in the arm. After doing so, Newman fled the building. The victim ran to her apartment and immediately called 911.

In announcing the verdict, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the work of MPD Detectives Wandella Fields, Wallace Carmichael and Anita Jackson, Criminal Investigator Durand Odom, Officers Ryan Kolb and Monica Agusti and Mobile Crime Lab Technicians Curtis Lancaster and Ralph Nitz. He also praised the work of U.S. Attorney's Office Paralegals Jason Manuel and Eugena Johnson, Legal Assistant Tiffany Jones, Victim Advocate Veronica Vaughan, Victim Witness Assistance Unit members David Foster and Katina Adams and Litigation Services members Kimberly Smith and Joseph Calverese. Finally, he commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Sharon Donovan, who investigated and tried the case, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Karen Ditzler, who also presented it in court.

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